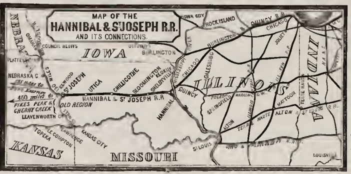
1859 NEW AND SHORT ROUTE OPEN TO THE 1859

GOLD REGIONS

Pike's Peak

AND

Cherry Creek,



AND ALL PARTS OF

KANSAS

AND

NEBRASKA!

HANNIBAL AND ST. JOSEPH RAILROAD

IS NOW OPEN TO THE MISSOURI RIVER,

Forming a complete Railroad Route to Kansas, and from two to four days the quickest route to Pike's Peak, Cherry Creek, Kansas, Nebraska, Salt Lake, Oregon, California, Upper Missouri River, Western Missouri, and Western Iowa. 150 miles farther West, and 250 miles nearer Pike's Peak, than any other Railroad.

THROUGH EXPRESS TRAINS, connect at Hannibal with Railroads from the East, and splendid Steamers hoth up and down the Mississippi, and run across the State 207 miles to St. Joseph, where they connect with fine Steamers daily South to Doniphon, Atchinson, Leavenworth, and Kansas City, and North to Iowa Point, Arago, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Omaha, Council Bluffs, Sioux City, &c., and Stages daily to Lecompton, Topeka, Lawrence, and Stage Lines and other conveyances to the Gold Regions, and all parts of Kansas, Nebraska, and the North West.

Passengers from the East, via Chicago, or any other route to Quincy, and hy ferry to Hannibal, will reach St. Joseph in 26 hours from Chicago, or Kansas in 12 hours from the Mississippi River, gaining 4 days over any other route. Passengers from the South hy the Louisville and New Orleans Packets, or the Ohio & Mississippi, Terre Haute, Alton & St. Louis, and Illinois Central Railroads, arriving at St. Louis, will take one of the finest and most comfortahle line of River Steamers on Western waters, run expressly in connection with this Road; leaving St. Louis daily for Hannibal, reaching St. Joseph and Kansas in 24 hours from St. Louis.

Emigrants for the Gold Mines will find at Hannibal, St. Joseph and Elwood large supplies of Stock, Provisions, Camp Tools, Mining Tools, Tents, Wagons, and all things necessary for an outfit to the Mines. Arrangements have heen made to transport over this Road, emigrants for the Gold Mines, with all their baggage, freight, wagons and stock.

THROUGH TICKETS can he ohtained at all the principal Railroad and Steamhoat Offices in the United States and the Canadas. Shippers of freight will please mark their goods "Railroad Levee," Hannibal, where they will be received and forwarded promptly.

JOHN AYER, General Freight Ag't, Hannibal, Mo.

J. Q. A. BEAN, Eastern Ag't.   JOSIAH HUNT, Superintendent.

Route-distances, with Notes as to Wood, Water and Grass along the route; Condition and crossing of Streams from St. Joseph to the Gold Region.

Stations.	Ms.	Total.	Remarks, Condition, etc.
Wathena,	3	3	Sat coun.; road good, W., W. & G. plenty.
Wolf River,	13	20	" " "
Claytonville,	11	31	" " "
Richmond (on Nemaha),	30	61	" " "
Ash Point,	13	74	" " "
Vermillion,	12	86	Wood, water and grass scarce.
Big Blue,	17	93	" " " plent., cross'g easy.
Cottonwood,	14	107	" " scarce, grass plenty.
Oak Point,	8	113	" " and grass plenty.
Rock Creek,	14	127	" " " "
Little Sandy,	14	141	" " " "
Big Sandy,	5	146	" " " "
Little Blue,	14	160	" " " "
Russel's Ranche,	23	183	" " " "
Hume's Ranche,	21	204	" " " "
Crooked Creek,	10	214	Wood scarce, water and grass plenty.
Elm Creek,	4	218	Small stream. " " bridg'd.
Thirty-Two Mile Creek,	5	223	W., W. and G. plenty; small stream.
Sand Hill Pond,	11	234	Some water, no wood or grass.
Platte River,	8	242	Grass plenty, wood scarce.
Fort Kearney,	12	254	Requisites for journeying obtained here.
Plum Creek,	33	287	W. W. and G. middling; Mail S and store.
Brady's Island,	39	326	Heavy timbered island; W. & G. plenty.
Cottonwood Springs,	13	339	Mail station, supplies of all kinds plenty.
Fremont Springs,	30	369	Water on the right, grass middling.
O'Fallon's Bluffs,	16	385	Mail station; supplies of all kinds here.
S. Platte, Upp Crossing,	40	425	Road to Utah, W., W. and grass here.
Beaver Creek,	27	452	Sm. stream 1 foot deep, supplies scarce.
Bijou Creek,	16	468	Good camping ground, supplies mod'rate.
St Vrain's Fork,	45	513	Mining settlements commence
Mouth of Cherry Creek,	37	550	Head quarters of mining operations.

by the Maryville cut-off this distance is reduced to 450 miles.

The rapid settlement of such a rich and prosperous country as the Gold regions of Kansas will call most loudly for men in all the employments of life. Mechanics will command prices far above any paid in the more settled States; men of the professions will find a crowding demand for all their skill and industry; farmers and gardeners will find, at their door, such markets as no old State can furnish; blacksmiths, shoemakers, artisans of all kinds, and men of every capacity will find employment at high rates in this newly discovered El Dorado of the West.

The experience of California is to come again, with all its enriching prosperity; with none of the disadvantages which its long distance from the rest of the world brought; and as emigrants, with all their property, can get there so much cheaper, so will this country settle more rapidly, and have more of the comforts of life, and less of its evils, than California.

From the St Louis Republican of January 20, 1859

Pike's Peak Gold Region.—The following letter has been handed to us by Capt. James A. Grant, of this city, and we are assured its statements, so far as they relate to the gold mines, may be relied on as correct in every particular. It is in answer to a letter from Capt. Grant, who is an old Californian, and who had addressed Mr Bryan at the instance of numerous friends in this and other States. This Mr. Bryan is the father of William Bryan, whose letter from Pike's Peak appeared in our city papers sometime last summer:—

Wathena, K. T., January 3, 1859.

Mr. James A. Grant,—Dear Sir: Having received two letters from you concerning the gold at Piko's Peak, I thought I would not answer until I heard directly from my son, who is now in Salt Lake City. The news yon saw in the papers was from him, with a good deal of exaggeration. A number of men from here, who have heen in California, have gone out, and write back that they can make from ten to twenty dollars, and even more, in a day. A great many are going from here in the spring, preparing to take a saw mill; and I have heard of six hundred hogs being hutchered for that markot. Thaddeus Hickman, of Columbia, my nephew, found a piece of gold, weighing five dollars, on Deer Creek, one hundred miles from Fort Laramie, in 1850, and from that I am ready to believo these reports. St. Joseph, no doubt, is the place to start from, and outfits can bo had as cheap there as anywhero. The old California road is the hest one.

Your friend, MILTON BRYAN.

From the Missouri Republican of February 8, 1859.

The following is an extract from a letter received hy Mr. James Pritchard, of St Louis. It contains some interesting statements concerning the Pike's Peak gold mines:—

Arapahoe City, K. T., January 6, 1859.

I am in the gold country, near Cherry Creek, and I assure you there is gold here, and plenty of it. I have discovered mines that will pay $20 dollars per day; I have not mined much yet, on account of the weather being too oold to work, but am preparing sluice lumber to commence operations early in the spring.

S. S. C., formerly of your city, is here. We have a claim in partnership, one of the best that has heen discovered. Game is in great abundance. I have killed fifty-four deer, six mountain sheep, and a large panther.

We have here 700 white men. We have laid out a town by the name of Arapahoe City, after the aborigines. We have also laid off a mining precinct, ten miles squaro, of which I have been elected Recorder. Weather has heen very pleasant this winter; only two small snow storms. Send me some St. Louis papers, and in return I will send you some gold dust. If you are not in some good husiness, I would advise you to come out here by all means. Yours, &c., THOS. S. GOLDEN.

From the Nebraska Advertiser Extra, February 4.

We had yesterday tho pleasure of meeting Messrs. C. A. Lawrence, Dr. A. S. Kunkle, J. W. Wimer and James Hall, who arrived at this place direct from tho gold regions, Denver City. They made the trip in twenty days, having left the gold regions on the eighth of January, and arrived here on the first of February, lying by four days.

From these gentlemen we gain the most valuable and reliable information. Mr. Lawrence is of the Lawrence Company, that left Leavenworth last fall; Dr. Kunkle is from Sioux City, Iowa, and went out tha Omaba route; Mr Wimer is from St. Louis, son of ex-Mayor Wimer, and Mr. Hall is from Leavenworth.

These gentlemen have thoroughly prospected, and exhibited specimens of the precious metal. Mr. Lawrence is an old Californía adventurer, and has no hesitancy in pronouncing the Cherry Creek mines equal, if not superior, to any of those of California. Those now mining, under the many disadvantages, aro making from $2 to $12, and often $15 per day — 5 to 33 cents per pan. Gold is found from the surface down to the bed rock, a depth averaging fifteen feet. The only difficulty at present is the want of water. But as several companies of competent capitalists are already organized for furnishing water, this, therefore, cannot much longer remain an obstacle of any consequence. Tho gold yet found to any extent is what is termed "float gold," and quicksilver will necessarily have to bo used to a considerable extent in collecting the finer and more valuable particles.

Shot gold has been discovered to some extent, and old miners are confident of finding 'nugget gold' in the spring. But little prospecting has yet been done in the mountains, owing to the season of the year, and occupancy of time in preparing comfortable quarters.

Gold has heen discovered in satisfactory quantities, along the base of the mountains, from New Mexico to Fort Laramie.

Water power is abundant on all the streams in that vicinity: South Platte, Vascour's Creek, Cherry Creek, Long's Creek, Rollistan's Creek, and Cache la Poudre. There is, therefore, no necessity of froighting all the heavy accompaniments of steam saw-mills. Pine timber of an excellent quality abounds, and in inexhaustible quantities.

Denver City and Auroria, only separated by the small stream, Cherry Creek, will be, if not already, consolidated, and will hereafter be known as Denver City. At that place are already erected over 300 houses; and when these gentlemen left, material was on the ground for 187 other houses, which are in process of erection, to he completed by the first of March. The soil thereabouts is good, but not sufficiently extensive in area as could be desired to make the country one of great agricultural importance.

Excellent qualities of building stone, and clay for brickmaking are found. Notwithstanding the season of the year, trains are arriving constantly, and those who have been there, aro leaving for the States to procure supplies of various kinds, to return again in the spring. Arapahoe county has been organized, of which Denver City is the county seat,—H. B. Smith, Judge; E. Wincoop, Sheriff; and Gen. Wm. Larimer, Treasurer.

Marble of an excellent quality has been discovered. Plaster-of-Paris abounds; Piko's Peak is thought to be composed principally of the latter. There is, perhaps, no country in which game abounds more plentifully; buffalo, elk, black and white tailed deer, black and grizzly bear, antelope, mountain sheep and goat, turkey and sage hen. Almost everything to eat, drink and wear will be in great demand, and will pay well to take from out this portion of the country, except, perhaps, flour, which can be brought from New Mexico, and sold at less price than can be afforded after froighting from here.

Mr. Lawrence, who has had great experience on the plains, thinks, for heavy loading, cattle aro preferable; but for light loads and quick trips, of course mules are best. He also thinks there will be no danger of overstocking the country with beef cattle, as is feared by many, on account of the presence of such an abundance of wild game. If the diggings prove as lucrative as there is every reason to believe they will, minero will not take the time to hunt, but prefer paying even large prices for beef at their cabin door. This is, to our mind, sound reasoning. Milch cows will be in great demand.

In the course of conversation with these gentlemen, a thousand and one interesting and pleasing incidents are related, which it is not expected of us to give in print. They are intelligent gentlemen, and an hour's chit-chat with them is a treat rarely to he met with. They will return from this point in the spring, having left their stock here to recuperate.

From the Kansas City Journal of Commarce.

Pike's Peak City, January 4, 1859.

The miners are mostly prospecting for spring diggings, and the most of them, that is, of the working class, are doing well, I mean well for the winter, considering the inferior way in which they have to mine—with pans mostly—as the frozen ground will not admit of very extensive working. When I say the miners are doing well, I mean that they are making over $5 per day: for if a miner starts out prospecting, and cannot average $5 per day, he says he has done nothing. But the largest strike that has been made by one man in this part of the mines was $75 in one day with pick and pan. The lucky man was Mr. J. W. Stanley, from Mineral Point, Wisconsin. The largest nugget that I have seen, weighed just $11.10, but the gold in this part of the country is very fine, scale gold.

The health of the country is good. The miners are making great preparations for making their piles in the spring, before the emigration gets here. The all-prevailing law in this conntry is the old California miner's law, which every criminal yields to with "high" submission. I have heard of no disappointed gold seeker in this part of the country. All think their greatest expectations will be realized in the mines

Respectfully, WM. W. SPALDING.

P. S. I send this hy a friend who is going to Hannibal, Mo., for his family. W. W. S.

From Pike's Peak. *More News from the new El Dorado.* — The last issue of the Kansas City Journal says:—

Quite an excitement was created in the city yesterday by the arrival of Jas. Blackstone, one of Russell, Majors & Co's wagon-masters, with several nuggets of gold, concerning the discovery of which the following account is given:—

Mr. Blackstone was in charge of a return train, with which he arrived in the vicinity of Ash Hollow, on or about November 22d. He here indulged in a buffalo hunt, and, after an exciting chase, went to a small lake, about six miles from Ash Hollow, on the Platte river, for the purpose of getting a drink. He was surprised hy discovering deposits of gold in the sand, over ninety dollars worth of which he picked up in a few hours. One of the nuggets alone is worth $22, and can be seen at the store of Russell, Majors & Waddell, on Main street.

Mr Blackstone was accompanied hy two men when the great discovery was made, and proposes to return in the course of a fortnight. If the gold deposits thereahout should turn out any thing like what is indicated by Mr Blackstone's discoveries, a new inflatus will be given to the gold fever, that extends throughout the length and breadth of the land. We think thero is little douht that the whole western portion of Kansas and Nebraska will eventually turn out to be one immense gold field, unequalled either in extent or richness.

Ash Hollow is distant from St. Joseph a little less than 600 miles.

GEO. C. RAND & AVERY, PRINTERS, 3 CORNHILL, BOSTON.

Postmasters and others, receiving copies of this Circular are requested to Post in a Conspicuous Place.